

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

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S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0396

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM NATO MBFR

SUBJ: MBFR: REVISED QUESTIONS FOR JULY 4 INFORMAL SESSION

REF: MBFR VIENNA 386 DTG 291851Z JUN 78

1. PARAS 11-20 OF QUESTIONS ON EASTERN DATA TRANSMITTED IN REFTEL HAVE BEEN DELETED FROM THOSE WHICH WE WILL SUBMIT FOR AHG APPROVAL AT ITS JULY 3 MEETING. IN ITS PLACE WE INTEND TO USE THE FOLLOWING FOUR QUESTIONS: BEGIN TEXT:

11. FOURTH, HAVE THE WARSAW PACT PARTICIPANTS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE NEGOTIATIONS INCREASED THE NUMBER OF CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF THEIR ARMED FORCES IN THE AREA IN CONNECTION WITH THE INTRODUCTION INTO THE AREA BY WARSAW PACT PARTICIPANTS OF AIRCRAFT AND OTHER EQUIPMENT WHICH IS MORE MODERN AND TECHNOLOGICALLY SOPHISTICATED?

12. FIFTH, HAS THE POLISH MILITARY POLICE UNIT, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS NOT SUBORDINATE TO A MILITARY DISTRICT, BEEN INCLUDED IN THE EAST'S COUNT IN THE SECOND CATEGORY OF "OTHER THAN MAJOR FORMATIONS"?

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13. OUR SIXTH QUESTION IS, ACCORDING TO EASTERN ACCOUNTS, EASTERN AUTHORITIES CONSIDERED AT THE OUTSET OF THESE TALKS THAT THE TOTAL STRENGTH OF WARSAW TREATY FORCES IN THE REDUCTION AREA WAS APPROXIMATELY THE SAME AS THE FIGURES WHICH THE EAST TABLED IN 1976. THEREFORE, WE CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY EASTERN AUTHORITIES WAITED UNTIL 1978 TO ACCEPT THE CONCEPT OF APPROXIMATE PARITY IN MILITARY MANPOWER AND EQUAL CEILINGS.

OUR QUESTION IS, WHY DID EASTERN AUTHORITIES NOT ADOPT THE SAME POSITION AT THE BEGINNING OF THESE TALKS IN 1973 AS THEY HAVE DONE NOW IN 1978?

14. OUR SEVENTH QUESTION IS, IF, AT THE OUTSET OF THESE TALKS, EASTERN AUTHORITIES CONSIDERED THAT THE TOTAL STRENGTH OF WARSAW PACT FORCES IN THE REDUCTION AREA WAS APPROXIMATELY THE SAME AS THAT REFLECTED IN THE FIGURES WHICH THE EAST TABLED IN 1976, WHAT DID EASTERN AUTHORITIES HAVE IN MIND IN INSTRUCTING WARSAW PACT DELEGATIONS TO SEEK IN THE SPRING OF 1976 THE DELETION FROM THE EASTERN FIGURES OF A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF WARSAW PACT MILITARY PERSONNEL PERFORMING FUNCTIONS WHICH THE EAST STATED WERE PERFORMED BY CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES IN THE WEST? IN THE FIRST PART OF 1976, DID EASTERN AUTHORITIES HAVE IN MIND, AFTER APPLYING EASTERN EQUAL PERCENTAGE REDUCTIONS, ACCEPTING A CEILING ON WARSAW TREATY FORCES WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLY BELOW THAT OF THE WEST--ACCORDING TO SOME INFORMAL EASTERN STATEMENTS, BY ABOUT 100,000 MEN? OR DID EASTERN AUTHORITIES AT THAT TIME HAVE IN MIND THAT OVERALL MANPOWER PARITY WOULD EXIST BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES IF 100,000 MEN WERE DEDUCTED FROM THE WARSAW PACT OVERALL MANPOWER TOTAL? END TEXT OF QUESTIONS.

2. THE REFERENCE TO 100,000 MEN IN THE LAST QUESTION IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS OF RECORD OF CONVERSATION PREPARED BY JCS REP MG SURUT AND COLONEL MECKEL ON THEIR CONVERSATION  
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WITH POLISH MILREP OSTASZEWICZ ON MARCH 26, 1976. IN TRILATERAL DISCUSSION OF JULY 1, UK DEP REP SAID HE HAD SOME RECOLLECTION, ALTHOUGH NOT A SPECIFIC ONE, THAT POLISH MILREP OSTASZEWICZ HAD MADE SIMILAR REMARK TO HIM. BEGIN TEXT OF RECORD OF CONVERSATION:

LTC MECKEL ASKED POLISH MIL REP IF HE WOULD EXPLAIN THE MEANINGS OF THE TERMS COMBAT, COMBAT SUPPORT AND COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT VOYSKA. COL OSTASZEWICZ EXPLAINED THAT THESE TERMS REFERRED TO UNITS SUCH AS DIVISIONS, REGIMENTS, BATTALIONS, ETC. LTC MECKEL OBSERVED THAT APPARENTLY THESE WERE A NUMBER OF MILITARY SERVICEMEN, SUCH AS THOSE SERVING IN MINISTRIES OF DEFENSE, WHO WERE NOT PART OF THE VOYSKA. COL OSTASZEWICZ REPLIED THAT THESE MILITARY SERVICEMEN WERE PART OF A "FOURTH GROUP." SERVICEMEN IN THE "FOURTH GROUP" PERFORMED FUNCTIONS IN THE EAST WHICH WERE PERFORMED BY CIVILIANS IN THE WEST. EASTERN REPS HAD ENUMERATED THESE FUNCTIONS IN INFORMAL MEETINGS.

LTC MECKEL ASKED IF POLISH MIL REP WAS AWARE THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF MILITARY SERVICEMEN ALSO PERFORMED THESE FUNCTIONS ON THE WESTERN SIDE. COL OSTASZEWICZ DID NOT ANSWER. LTC MECKEL SAID, FOR EXAMPLE, THERE WAS A LARGE NUMBER OF US SERVICEMEN WHOSE SOLE FUNCTION WAS TO GUARD DEPOTS AND MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.

COL OSTASZEWICZ SAID THESE SERVICEMEN MUST BE THOSE THAT GUARDED NUCLEAR WEAPONS. LTC MECKEL RESPONDED THAT THEY GUARDED ALL TYPES OF MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.

COL OSTASZEWICZ STATED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT NATO HAD A LARGE NUMBER OF CIVILIANS, AROUND 300,000. WAS IT NOT TRUE THAT THE FRG HAD 180,000 AND THE US 68,000? (COMMENT: POLISH MIL REP HAD APPARENTLY NOT HEARD OF NON-APPROPRIATED FUND EMPLOYEES). LTC MECKEL ASKED HOW MANY CIVILIANS WORKED FOR THE POLISH ARMED FORCES? COL OSTASZEWICZ RESPONDED THAT THERE WERE VERY FEW, ONLY SOME TYPISTS. LTC MECKEL STATED THAT HE HAD SEEN PICTURES IN "RED STAR" WHICH SHOWED CIVILIANS PERFORMING OTHER FUNCTIONS, EVEN IN FIELD UNITS SUCH AS FIELD HOSPITALS.

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COL OSTASZEWICZ ADMITTED CIVILIANS PERFORMED OTHER FUNCTIONS ON THE EASTERN SIDE. HOWEVER, THE EAST WAS NOT SEEKING CREDIT FOR ALL CIVILIANS ON THE WESTERN SIDE, BUT ONLY THOSE THAT PERFORMED FUNCTIONS PERFORMED BY THE MILITARY IN THE EAST, TO BE MORE SPECIFIC, 90,000. LTC MECKEL ASKED IF THIS WAS THE NUMBER OF SERVICEMEN TO BE EXCLUDED ON THE EASTERN SIDE. COL OSTASZEWICZ REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

JCS REP SURUT ASKED IF POLISH MIL REP COULD EXPLAIN WHAT THE EAST HAD IN MIND WITH ITS LATEST PROPOSALS ON FORCE DEFINITIONS. COL OSTASZEWICZ RESPONDED THAT THE WEST HAD CLAIMED THAT THERE WAS A LARGE DISPARITY IN GROUND FORCES. THE IDEA OF THE EASTERN PROPOSALS WAS TO MAKE THE TWO SIDES ABOUT EQUAL. THESE PROPOSALS WERE FAIR BECAUSE OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF CIVILIANS ON THE WESTERN SIDE, APPROXIMATELY 300,000. THE EAST WAS NOT ASKING FOR COMPENSATION FOR ALL OF THESE CIVILIANS, BUT, AS HE HAD ALREADY EXPLAINED TO LTC MECKEL, FOR ONLY ONE-THIRD. JCS REP SAID THAT IN OTHER WORDS THE EAST WANTED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT APPROXIMATELY 100,000. COL OSTASZEWICZ GLANCED AT LTC MECKEL AND THEN SAID THAT THIS FIGURE WAS ABOUT RIGHT. END TEXTDEAN

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